REMARKS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-23 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Gordon et al. (U.S. Patent 6,481,012). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that Gordon et al. discloses a method for supporting a picture-in-picture type time shifting including receiving a plurality of broadcasting programs and displaying respective live broadcasting programs through a PIP structure on the screen. The Examiner states that it also shows a second step of storing in a storage section one of the programs and selectively reproduced the program through time shifting to display the stored program on the screens. The Examiner also states that it shows a third step of displaying through the PIP structure a plurality of currently received other live broadcasting programs simultaneously with the second step. The Applicant disagrees that the cited reference teaches the present claimed invention.

First, the Applicant believes that the Examiner's understanding of memory 1476 is incorrect. This memory is part of controller 1470 and is used

to store software routines as indicated at Column 13, line 64. Thus, this is not

a storage unit for the broadcasting signal, but instead stores routines for use

in the controller. Also, the Applicant submits that the third step of displaying

other currently received live broadcasting programs simultaneously with the

selective storage is not seen in the reference.

While Gordon et al. may show the receipt of multiple broadcasting

signals and the picture-in-picture display, the Applicant submits that the

Examiner has not shown where the reference includes a step of storing one of

the broadcasting programs while simultaneously displaying a plurality of other

received live broadcasting programs simultaneously. Accordingly, the

Applicant submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by this reference.

Further, it is noted that Gordon et al. does show a PID filter which

extracts an audio information stream and a video information stream in a

conventional manner. This differs from the present invention where the PID

filter separates the transport streams of an input source so that a plurality of

images may be simultaneously displayed using a PIP function. At least one of

the displayed images is based on a time shifted transport stream which is

supplied to the storage device with the separated transported streams being

stored and accessed according to a packet identifier for a selected output as

the time-shifted transport stream. The other images of the display are based

on one or more live transport streams. The time shifted image and/or the live

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images are selectively output by a re-multiplexer to support the picture-in-picture function as desired. The memory and re-multiplexer of the Gordon et al. can not process the separated transport streams in support of a PIP function as in the present invention.

Claim 4 is an independent apparatus claim which specifically describes the encoding section, demux section, a packet identifier filter, storage section and remux section. The Applicant submits that the Examiner's understanding of the reference is incorrect. First, the Examiner has indicated the encoding unit as section 216. However, this is part of the head end equipment 202 which is involved before the signals are distributed to local neighborhoods through distribution networks. Thus, this apparatus is not part of the claimed apparatus, but instead is part of the system used before the signal is distributed to the home.

Concerning the PID filter, as indicated above, this is only used to separate the audio information from the video information. Also as indicated above, the memory 1476 is not used to store the programming signal, but instead is only used to store software routines for the controller. Also, the Applicant submits that the reference does not teach a remux section which selects the desired stream among the stream packets and converting the selected stream into the TP stream packets again. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that claim 4 is likewise allowable.

Claims 2, 3 and 5-8 depend from these allowable independent claims and as such are also to be considered allowable. In addition, these claims recite other features of the invention which makes these claims additionally allowable.

The Applicant is submitting herewith new claims 9-23 which also define over the Gordon et al. device. These claims are also allowable for the same reasons recited above. Claim 9 describes an apparatus for supporting a time-shifted picture-in-picture display including an input source, a packet identifier, a storage interface and a re-multiplexer. Claim 19 describes a digital television including a de-multiplexer, a packet identifier filter, a storage interface, a re-mutiplexer and a display device. The Applicant submits that these two independent claims are allowable for the same reasons recited above. Claims 10-18 and 20-23 depend from these allowable independent claims and as such are also considered to be allowable. In addition, these claims recite other features of the invention as well.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims distinguish over the patent relied on by the Examiner. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.
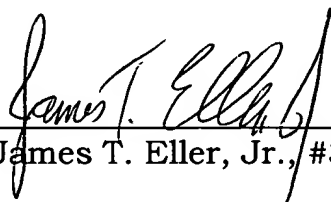
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert F. Gnuse (Reg. No. 27,295) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant respectfully petitions for a one (1) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application. The required fee of $120.00 is enclosed.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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